PTO/SB/21 (04-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 10/634,468 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date August 5, 2003 **FORM** First Named Inventor H. Gene Hawkins (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Art Unit 3728 **Examiner Name** Shian T. Luong Total Number of Pages in This Submission Attorney Docket Number 5490-000316 ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to Fee Transmittal Form ■ Drawing(s) Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board of Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers Appeals and Interferences Petition Appeal Communication to TC Amendment / Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a After Final Proprietary Information **Provisional Application** Power of Attorney, Revocation Affidavits/declaration(s) Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Terminal Disclaimer Other Enclosure(s) Extension of Time Request (please identify below): Request for Refund Response to Express Abandonment Request Election/Restriction CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_ Requirement; return postcard. Information Disclosure Statement The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Certified Copy of Priority Remarks fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Document(s) Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Reg. No. Attorney Name Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. Richard W. Warner 38,043 Individual name Signature Date CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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9-28-05

TFW

## **PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:

10/634,468

Filing Date:

August 5, 2003

Applicant:

H. Gene Hawkins

Group Art Unit:

3728

Examiner:

Shian T. Luong

Title:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR USE OF A VACUUM

PACKAGE FOR ALLOGRAFT MATERIAL

Attorney Docket:

5490-000316

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 14, 2005, for which the time period to respond extends to October 14, 2005, Applicant elects claims of Group I (Claims 1-22) and the species of the embodiments of Figures 1-3 (Claims 1-5, 7-10, and 12-13), with traverse.

U.S. Serial No.10/634,468 Attorney Docket No. 5490-000316

The Examiner is requested to reconsider the Restriction Requirement since it appears that the subject matter defined within all the groups of claims are similar. Consequently, the field of search for each group should be essentially coextensive. Thus, the burden on the Examiner will not be significant to maintain each group of claims in this application.

Should the Examiner have any further questions regarding the election, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. Attorney for Applicant

Dated:

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Sept. 27, 2005

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